

COVID-19 Cases Among Children and Youth in Washington

Washington State Department of Health

October 11, 2023



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Publication Number: 421-019

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NOTE: DOH updated the population estimates used in rate calculations for COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. We are now using more recent estimates for 2022-2023. This resulted in a slight decrease in case, hospitalization, and death rates in this report. Please be cautious when comparing this report to versions released prior to June 14, 2023.

The purpose of this report is to provide information on COVID-19 in all children and youth, ages 0 to 19 years, in Washington state. Children and youth across Washington continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. While schools are taking precautions to prevent the spread of the virus, understanding the burden of the disease among all children and youth can help communities, educational service districts (ESD), school districts, and schools better prepare and respond to shifting needs. This report describes cases among all children and youth in Washington and are broken down by ESD regions, and age. An ESD is a regional education unit that is made up of multiple school districts. State level hospitalization and death data are also provided.

Cases are assigned to an ESD region based on the individual's home address. Children and youth with COVID-19 include all individuals living within an ESD's jurisdiction who are 0-19 years old, regardless of where they actually learn.

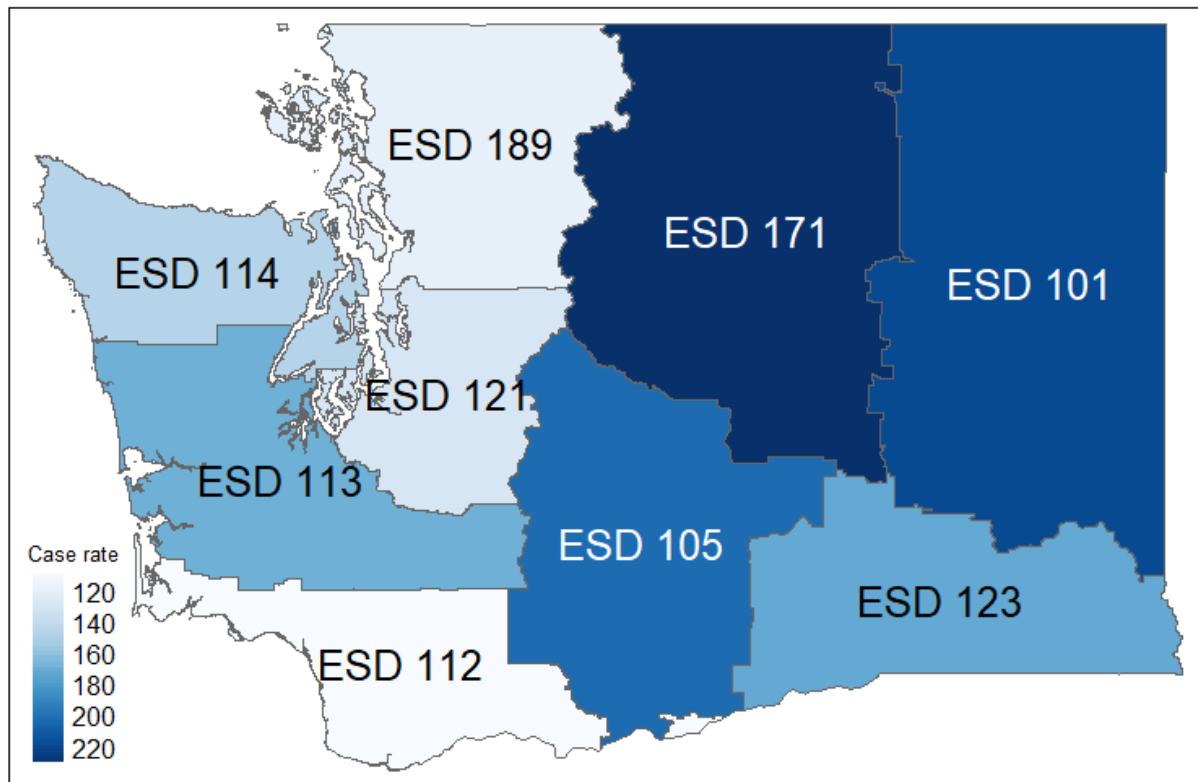
Key findings

- Among children and youth in Washington state from September 4 to October 1, 2023:
 - there were 2,782 cases (147.2 cases per 100,000 population);
 - case rates are continuing to increase;
 - the highest case rates were in ESD 171 Washington;
 - 0-3 year-olds had the highest case rates (280.2 cases per 100,000 population);
 - there were 69 hospitalizations (3.7 hospitalizations per 100,000 population);
 - hospitalization rates are increasing.
- There have been a total of 12 deaths in all children and youth in Washington state reported January 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023

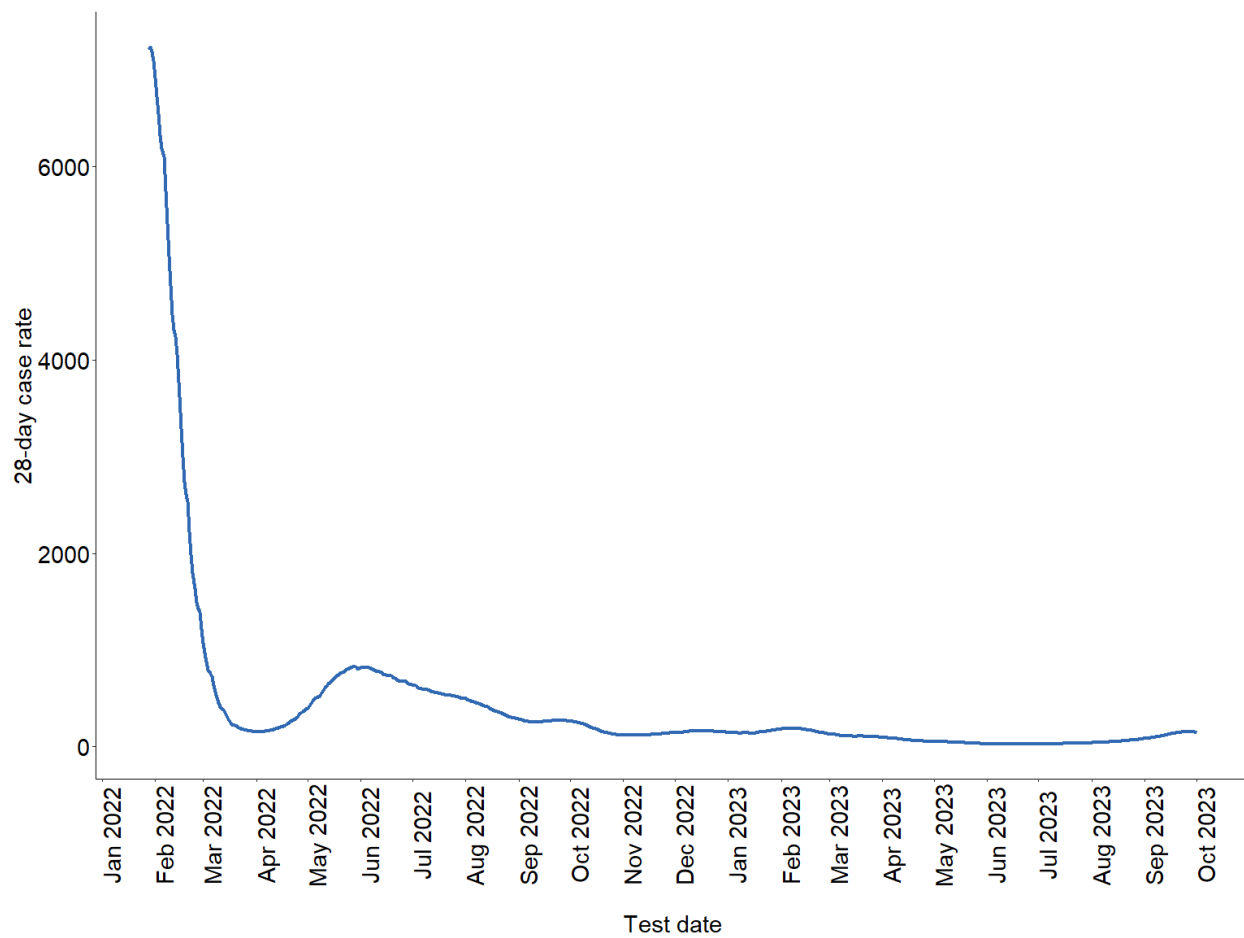
Number of COVID-19 cases and case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, September 4 to October 1, 2023

ESD	Population	Case count	Case rate
ESD 101	167,915	368	219.2
ESD 105	98,916	201	203.2
ESD 112	167,891	182	108.4
ESD 113	120,490	204	169.3
ESD 114	77,927	114	146.3
ESD 121	774,662	999	129.0
ESD 123	122,746	211	171.9
ESD 171	68,176	158	231.8
ESD 189	290,870	345	118.6
State total	1,889,593	2,782	147.2

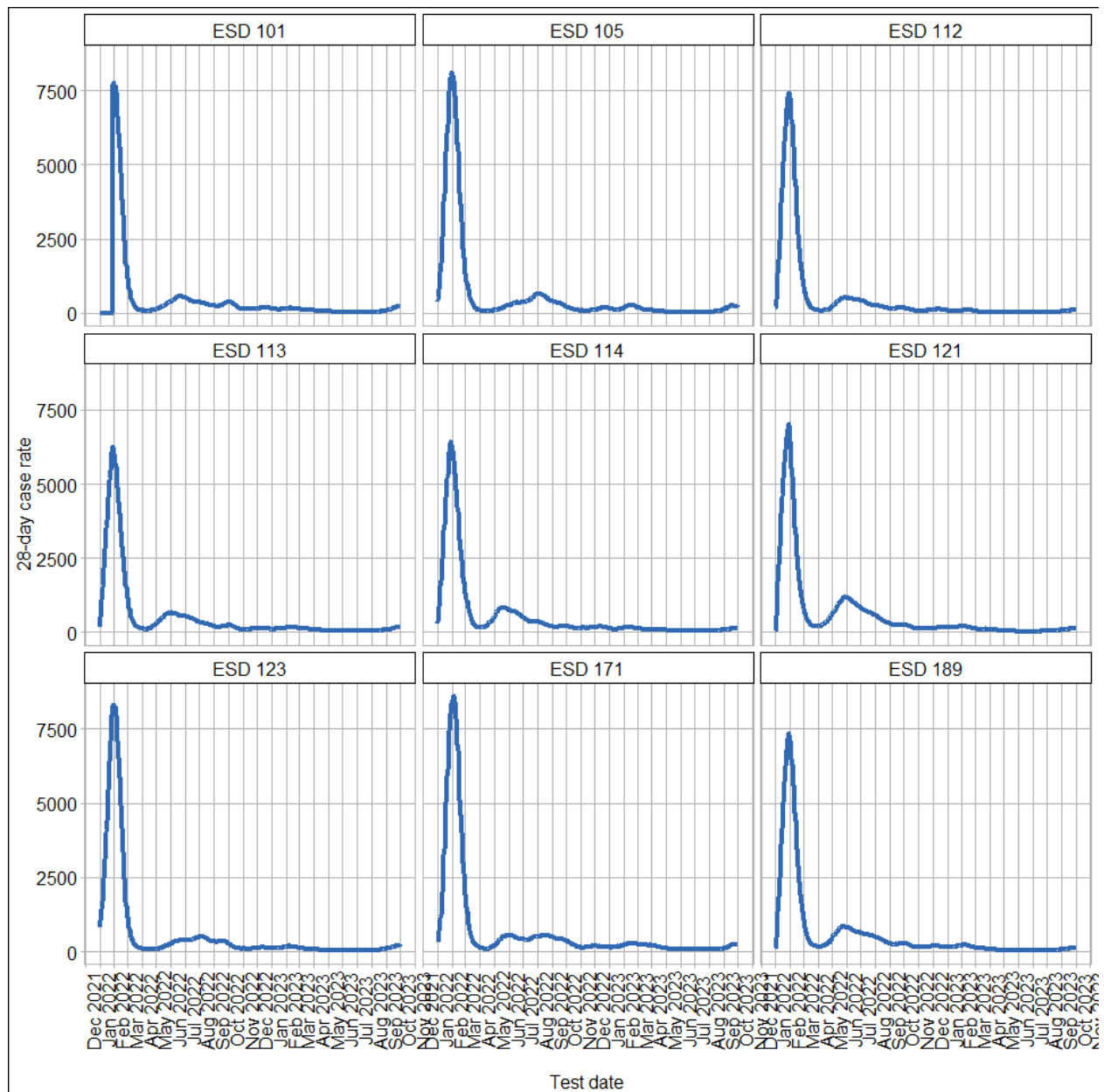
COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region, September 4 to October 1, 2023



28-day COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state, January 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023



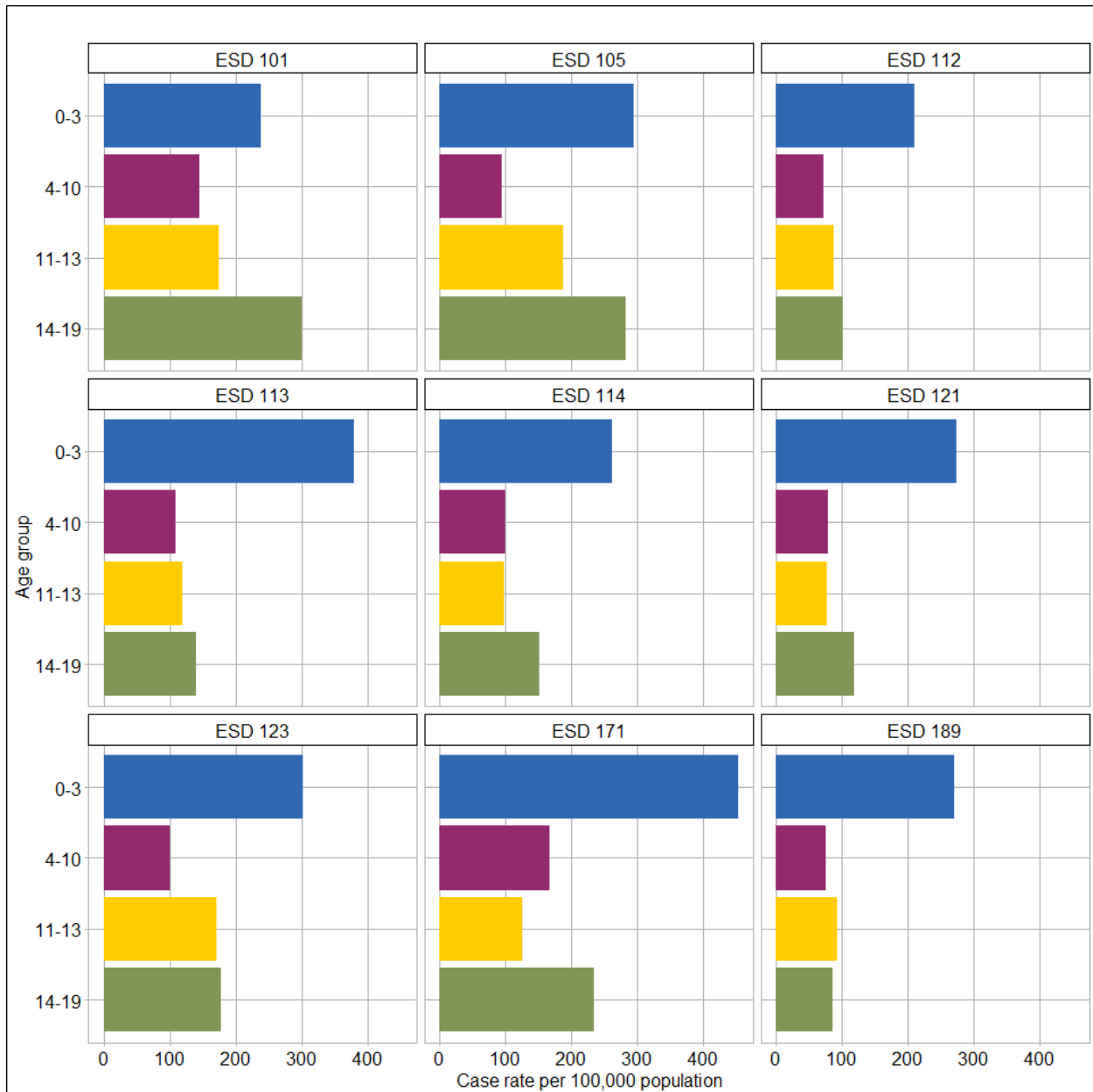
28-day COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state by ESD region, January 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023



Number of COVID-19 cases and case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region and age group, September 4 to October 1, 2023

	0-3 year-olds (preschool)		4-10 year-olds (elementary school)		11-13 year-olds (middle school)		14-19 year-olds (high school)	
ESD	Case count	Case rate	Case count	Case rate	Case count	Case rate	Case count	Case rate
ESD 101	70	238.5	81	145.8	45	174.7	172	300.3
ESD 105	52	293.6	33	94.3	29	188.2	87	282.4
ESD 112	62	210.6	43	73.3	24	88.0	53	100.9
ESD 113	83	379.8	46	109.1	23	119.4	52	139.7
ESD 114	40	262.1	27	98.9	12	98.3	35	151.2
ESD 121	413	274.4	219	80.0	93	78.0	274	118.5
ESD 123	66	302.3	44	101.0	34	171.7	67	178.4
ESD 171	55	453.1	39	165.7	14	125.8	50	234.0
ESD 189	149	269.7	77	76.2	43	92.7	76	86.2
State total	990	280.2	609	92.2	317	106.9	866	149.5

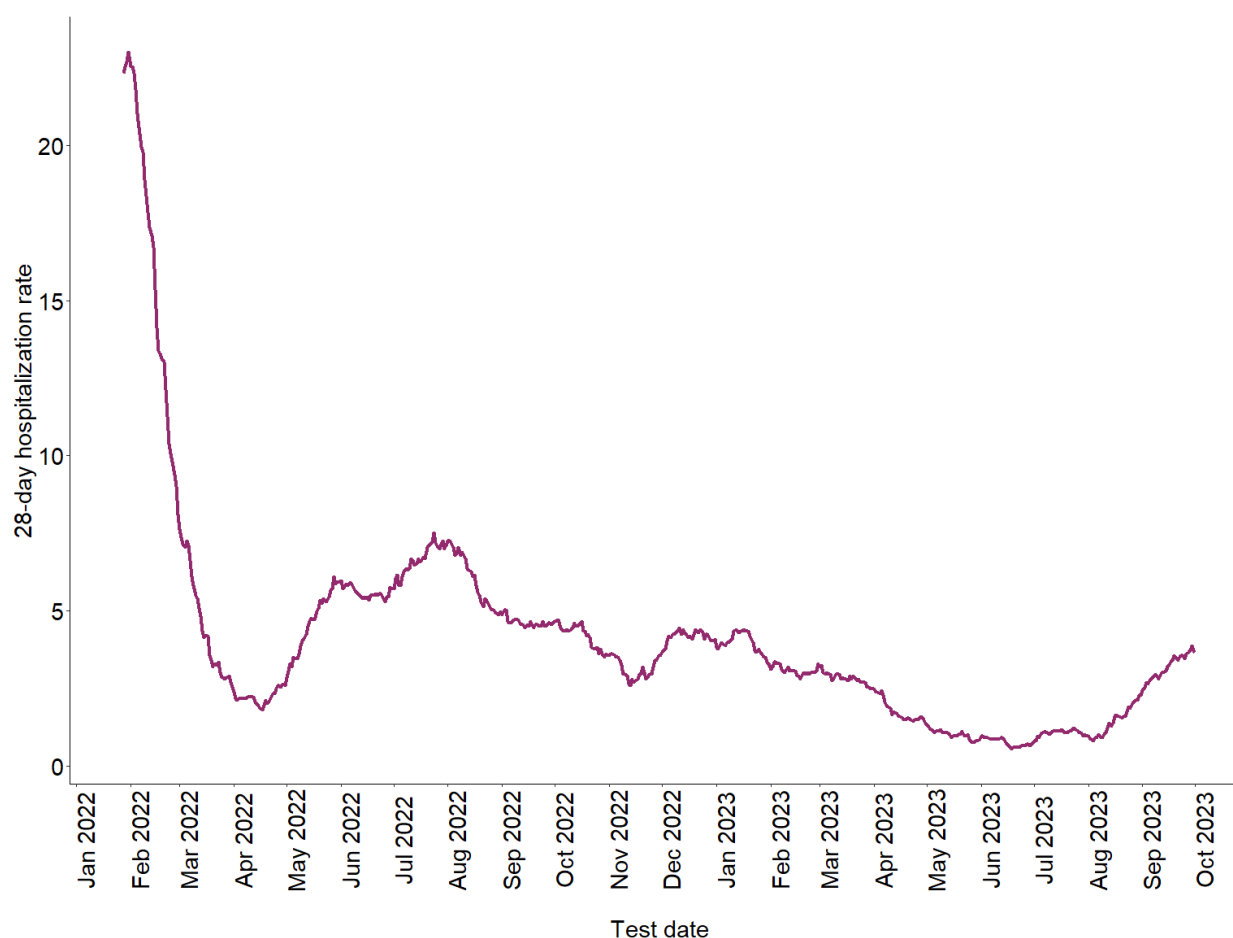
COVID-19 case rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth by ESD region and age group, September 4 to October 1, 2023



COVID-19 hospitalization rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington, September 4 to October 1, 2023

Population	Hospitalization count	Hospitalization rate
1,889,593	69	3.7

28-day COVID-19 hospitalization rate per 100,000 population in all children and youth in Washington state, January 1, 2022 to October 1, 2023



Methods

Definitions

Case data in this report come from the Washington State Disease Reporting System (WDRS). A 'case' is defined as an individual between the ages of 0 and 19 years who tested positive for COVID-19 during a 28-day period by either molecular test (such as PCR) or antigen tests. Most antigen tests are rapid tests and provide results in approximately 15 minutes to 1 hour.

The report includes the most recent complete 28 days of data, September 4 to October 1, 2023.

Cases are assigned to an ESD region based on the individual's home address. Children and youth with COVID-19 include all individuals living within an ESD's jurisdiction who are 0-19 years old, regardless of where they actually learn. This includes:

- students who attend a public or private school in the ESD region
- homeschooled youth
- youth who reside in a juvenile correctional facility
- all other children and youth

Please note that case rates and counts do not represent cases that occurred among students enrolled in a particular ESD or district. They represent all children and youth within the region served by an ESD or district.

An accurate home address was missing for approximately 0% of cases in children and youth with a test date between September 4 to October 1, 2023. These cases are not included in this report.

A COVID-19 hospitalization is a Washington resident who has been identified using case investigation data in WDRS or links with Rapid Health Information Network (RHINO) records as hospitalized with confirmed or probable COVID-19. Due to small numbers, to protect privacy hospitalization data are only reported at the state level.

Deaths are reported to the state by health care providers, medical examiners or coroners, local health departments, or others to the official vital records database, WHALES. COVID-19 deaths included in this report are identified in WHALES where the cause of death was confirmed or suspected to have been COVID-19. Due to small numbers, to protect privacy death data are only reported at the state level aggregated across time.

28-day rate calculation

Case rates are calculated as the total number of cases within the specified demographic (e.g. age group) and ESD region with a test date during the 28-day period divided by the Washington state population for the same region and demographic.

Hospitalization rates are calculated as the total number of hospitalizations in Washington state with a test date during the 28-day period divided by the Washington state population 0-19 years old.

All rates presented in this report use the Washington state population distribution based on population interim estimates (PIE) by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin developed by Public Health – Seattle and King county (PHSKC).